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1580, described Trent as a town half-divided between two languages. To-day its characteristics are Italian. Bohemia presents still more perplexing problems. In spite of their political antagonisms, Czechs and Teutons bear a baffling physical resemblance, which leaves a doubt as to whether the Slavic or the German type predominates. Again, the persistence of common physical characteristics is in strange contrast to linguistic changes which take place under the eyes of the present generation. The reactionary Princes Schwarzenberg, perhaps the most powerful aristocrats of all Europe, are identifying themselves more and more, linguistically, with the Czechs, though their loyalty to the Hapsburgs is as unaltered as that of the liberal-German Auerspergs. Entire Bohemian cities have changed their linguistic and political complexion in recent days. In 1850 Pilsen was a German town. Of its 15,000 inhabitants 3000 or 4000 were Czechs. To-day, of its 70,000 inhabitants the overwhelming majority are Czechs. Budweis has fared similarly. In Vienna itself the Slavic propaganda, though not expressed in figures, is steadily gaining ground. And the German-speaking population, while bitterly opposed to the Slavs, is far from being in sympathy, alike in peace and war, with the Teutonism of Berlin. Again, anthropologically and linguistically—as far as the spoken language is concerned—the differences between the German of Vienna and the German of Berlin are as marked as the resemblances.

Few foreign observers have laid such stress as Professor Auerbach, directly and indirectly, on the need of weighing all the factors entering into a discussion of Magyar chauvinism, the claims of Poles, the aspirations of South Slavs, but for these and similar subjects now agitating the world we must refer the reader to his own pages. In conclusion, we shall only add that it is a rare pleasure to notice the scrupulous accuracy in the spelling of foreign names which distinguishes this notable volume. We have found only one disturbing misprint: the statement (on p. 259) that the Jews of Galicia number *one* (instead of ten) per cent. of the total population. The only serious defect of the book is the lack of an index.

GUSTAV POLLAK.

Der Kampf um die Vermeidung des Weltkriegs: Randglossen aus zwei Jahrzehnten zu den Zeitereignissen vor der Katastrophe (1892-1900 und 1907-1914). Von BERTHA VON SUTTNER. Herausgegeben von Dr. ALFRED H. FRIED. In two volumes. (Zürich: Orell Füssli. 1917. Pp. xx, 628; xvi, 630. 16 fr.)

FROM October, 1892, to the summer of 1900, and again from January, 1907, until a month before her death in 1914 (June 21), Baroness Bertha von Suttner wrote "from week to week and month to month" a fairly continuous record of political events. She made abstracts of speeches, quoted significant sentences, and fused the story of it all in the setting

of her own comment. The personality of the writer is revealed in her criticisms, but otherwise there is but little of a personal nature in these portly volumes, until one reaches the pages which tell of her travels in the United States. These are filled chiefly with letters to Dr. Fried. The total result is, as Dr. Fried says, not history but the raw material of history. The value placed upon such material will depend chiefly upon one's estimate of the importance of the Baroness von Suttner's judgments of men and things.

Dr. Fried has evidently labored patiently over this mass of condensed summaries of news-items in a spirit of enthusiastic admiration for his departed friend, and in the belief that her outlook upon her own age will have a permanent value for a future time. He was avowedly moved by a desire to execute a commission which she had entrusted to him and also to produce a suitable memorial to her life-work for world-peace.

The title here given to her marginal notes on contemporary life is of Dr. Fried's choosing, and in an epilogue to the second volume he points out that his *Diary of the War*, published in *Friedens-Warte* since August, 1914, is substantially a continuation of the baroness's chronicle of the events leading towards this Armageddon.

The first outstanding impression derived from this moving picture of politics is that the baroness placed every event and every actor always under one searchlight, that which came from the idea behind the title of her most famous book, *Die Waffen Nieder*. That idea possessed her completely. By it all her contemporaries were measured. The years in which she collected these memoranda were the years of the Venezuela dispute, the two Hague Conferences, the Morocco controversy and the Balkan Wars. She was quick to appraise the bearing of all events and policies upon the cause dear to her heart, and she appraised them with accuracy and foresight. She perceived that the English Edward was a preserver of peace, and that the German Wilhelm, whose contradictory qualities she well described as "ultra-modern and ultra-feudal", was not to be implicitly trusted when he posed as a pacifist. Therefore although at first sight these pages look like a fragmentary chronicle, a heap of disconnected facts, a closer scrutiny shows an underlying unity in these scraps; it is in the constant factor of the movement towards an organized world and against the mailed fist. So the baroness's note-books, while conveying no information that is new, may have some value as a witness to a long and unswerving effort.

To an American the naïve and minute confidences in the letters written during Baroness von Suttner's visit here in 1912 are sometimes interesting as gossip, although the reason for such unrestricted publication is not evident. It is worth noting, however, that in the spring of 1914, having in mind the repeal of the Panama toll-exemption clause, she placed this estimate upon President Wilson: "He has introduced morals into politics".

Dr. Fried has contributed to the work a name-index and a subject-index, which seem reasonably adequate. His English proof-reading has made at least one curious blunder (II. 431), where "the pulsied month of war" remotely suggests a "palsied mouth".

CHARLES H. LEVERMORE.

Das Völkerringen 1914/15. Von F. M. KIRCHEISEN. Mit Aktenstücken. Erster (Text-)Band. (Aarau: H. R. Sauerländer. 1915. Pp. xx, 567. 8 marks.)

THIS volume is part of a pretentious history of the war, on the large scale of those of Allen and Simonds now being published. The author, who is a native of Saxony, has long resided in Geneva, which may account for some of his views, and even for the clear and simple prose which he writes. He makes books easily and quickly, but I judge also without much research, with little insight, and no depth of thought. While these pages contain much of interest to him who would read the details, they present few important additions to our knowledge of the subject, little to explain what is not evident already, few generalizations, or summaries, or wise remarks. The plan stated is to make use of official or semi-official documents and the best information obtainable from trustworthy sources among all the belligerent peoples. Actually the work consists in large part of lengthy extracts from newspapers, German and Swiss. True, a *Documentenhalbband* was issued along with this volume, but it is not to be obtained here yet. From what is before me I should conjecture that in it the author uses his texts with such acumen and fairness as intelligent German propagandists have displayed in this country.

The writing is not by one blinded with feeling of superiority or lust for power, but from a kindly gentleman who seems to desire to be fair. In his judgment France is "das aufgeklärteste und demokratischste Land Europas". But even from such a one we find no admission that in any way was Germany to blame for the war, or that any of her deeds have been more than little transgressions justified by evil conditions. In mild simplicity he follows zu Reventlow's school: since the fall of Napoleon England has woven a net about the world so that all men must labor for her and all the world's riches be hers; when Germany resisted, England grew hostile; Edward VII., envious of his nephew, made the Entente Cordiale, rendering France subservient, and then drew along Russia; thus was Germany encircled. He thinks that the measures of Austria-Hungary against Servia were just; the direct cause of the war was the declaration of July 24 that in a conflict between Austria and Servia, Russia could not be indifferent; the Russian ruling classes needed a successful war to regain their vanished prestige; the Allies prepared to attack, Russia really making the first declaration of war; envy of German greatness was one of the major causes.